

## News

### University Senate Hopes For More Involvement in Administration

Attendance at University Senate meetings has surged since the departure of former Stony Brook University President Shirley Strum Kenny, which could indicate a more effective senate.

» page 7

## Opinion

### Unity in Afghanistan and America

Over the past 8 or so years the United States has maintained a military presence in Afghanistan. It started with the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 but became quickly over shadowed by the conflict that arose in Iraq.

» page 5

## Arts

### Desirée Rogers Drops the Ball

Behind every perfect social event is the perfect event planner, but in the case of the White House, it's the social secretary. Desirée Rogers is responsible for every event that happens in the White House residence. She must coordinate with chefs, florists, décor, entertainment, and of course, the guest lists.

» page 6

## Sports

### For Seawolves Sports Break Equals Work

While most students will be at home, enjoying the month-long break away from classes, campus food, and exams, Stony Brook University's athletic teams will be busy competing on the court, on the ice and in the pool.

» page 16



Photos by Ezra Margono

Regina Calcaterra (left), who will run for the state Senate seat in 2010, addressed the crowd in front of Kenneth P. LaValle stadium. Students braved the cold as Alex Nagler (lower right) led the rally.

## Debate Over Campus Hotel Heats Up At Town Hall Meeting

BY RACHELLE S. JOHNSON  
Contributing Writer

There was a common theme among participants at the Town Hall Meeting about the construction of a new Hilton Hotel at Stony Brook University. Students, faculty, community residents, and even members of the Setauket Fire District demanded to be heard.

The debate between Barbara Chernow, Vice President of Facilities and Services and Distinguished Professor Malcolm Bowman, professor of Physical Oceanography at Stony Brook University was hosted by the Executive Committee of the University Senate and held Friday Dec. 4. While both Chernow and Bowman each delivered a few polite blows to one another,

audience members landed a few knockout punches of their own.

The first venue, a small conference room in the Student Activities Center, was changed to the auditorium on the first floor, when the full capacity of 75 people was reached, before the debate could begin. Nearly 120 faculty, staff, students and community members attended.

At the start, University Senate President Michael Schwartz introduced the panel and delivered apologies on behalf of President Stanley, who could not attend because "he already had unbreakable appointments with key public officials."

Chernow, in charge of the hotel project began by saying, "Everyone agrees we need a hotel." She then described some of the hotel's features, like the brick exterior and cast stone.

"It will look as beautiful as our Humanities Building," said Chernow. On a campus map, Chernow illustrated where the hotel would be constructed - on Circle Road near the entrance to Stony Brook University, where there is currently 11 acres of forest. According to Chernow, two thirds of the land would remain undisturbed.

Stony Brook Harbor Construction will fund the project, and according to Chernow, "The university is not spending a dime, and the funds generated will stay on campus." According to Chernow, there will be a 175 ft. buffer along Nichols Road.

Bowman, the opposition to the hotel, began his challenge by conceding that having a hotel on campus was a "good idea", but added that the proposed hotel does not serve the needs of

Stony Brook University, and was simply, a "bad location". The environmentalist said although the new Hilton Hotel would have a conference room, there was still a need for a comprehensive conference center. According to Stanley's campus wide email sent in October, the hotel will have a 5,000 square foot meeting room.

In response to the idea that the 175 foot buffer would somehow lessen the visual impact a Hilton Hotel would have on Nicholls Road, Bowman said "It's really not a buffer. The hotel wouldn't be hidden behind a buffer. The hotel would stick out above the tree line."

Among Bowman's problems with the location of the hotel is the deforestation it would cause. Bowman, a member of the New York City Panel on Climate Change, said, "It's hypocritical that my own employer intends to clear forests."

After the 135-guest room

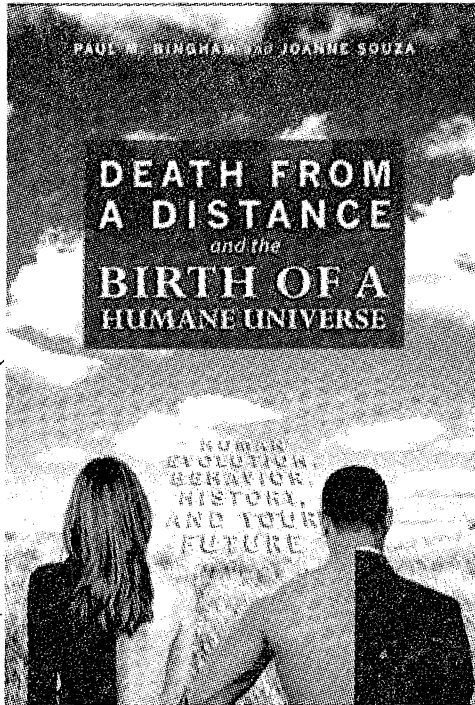
Continued on page 3

Stony Brook faculty

**Paul M. Bingham and Joanne Souza**

proudly announce the publication of their  
game-changing new book – at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

Prosperity and  
poverty,  
war and peace,  
hope and  
despair. AT  
LAST we have a  
real theory of  
human  
evolution,  
behavior, history  
and our future.



“manuscript is magnificent”

George C. Williams; Crafoord Laureate

“provocative”

Philip Rightmire; Harvard, Binghamton

[deathfromadistance.com](http://deathfromadistance.com)

**Students, Faculty, and Staff**

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

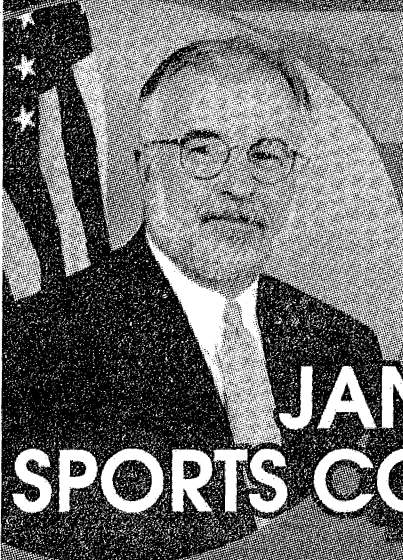
Students, faculty, and staff are invited to submit  
nominations for the Chancellor's Awards for:

- Excellence in Teaching
- Excellence in Faculty Service
- Excellence in Librarianship
- Excellence in Professional Service
- Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities

The guidelines, nomination form, and instructions for  
assembling nomination files are available on the  
Provost's website: [www.sunysb.edu/provost/form/index.shtml](http://www.sunysb.edu/provost/form/index.shtml)

**Completed nomination files must be received by the  
Provost's Office no later than January 11, 2010.**

# GOVERNMENT JOB AND INTERNSHIP FAIR



CO-SPONSORED BY  
CONGRESSMAN  
TIM BISHOP

JANUARY 15, 2010  
SPORTS COMPLEX ARENA  
12:00-4:00PM

STONY  
BROOK  
STUDENT AFFAIRS

A CAREERCENTER EVENT

[WWW.STONYBROOK.EDU/CAREER](http://WWW.STONYBROOK.EDU/CAREER) • 631-632-6870 • MEET US @ THE FOOT OF THE ZEBRA PATH

# Debate Over Campus Hotel Heats Up At Town Hall Meeting

Continued from page 1

hotel is built, Stony Brook Harbor Construction has reserved the right to build an addition to the hotel, a point brought out by Bowman and later verified by Chernow. The addition could destroy more of the remaining "two thirds" of the forest.

Chernow contended that the buffer would be a minimum of 175 feet, then reiterated her excitement that a committed developer had been found and doubted it would be easy to get another ground lease.

After the exchanges between Bowman and Chernow, members of the audience were invited to speak. Among the first was Michelle Pizer, president of the Campus Environmental Club. In a prepared statement, the senior encouraged SBU officials to "Stop just thinking green and act green." Pizer also said other locations should be considered before clearing the native forest, disturbing sensitive habitats and exacerbating other local and global environmental problems.

Caitlin Fisher-Reid, a PhD candidate at SBU, gave an impassioned plea against the proposed location of the hotel. According to Fisher-Reid, "The destruction of 11-acres would detract from the progress of beautification." The 11-acre forest is one of her field sites. Fisher-Reid studies the "high quality salamanders" located in the forest. She also works with 13 other students who volunteer to do research there. The crowd broke into loud applause after her remarks.

There were other moments of spontaneous applause from the audience. Professor Jeffrey S. Levinton, a Distinguished Professor from the Ecology and Evolution Department, was interrupted by applause as he addressed the crowd and the panel. In what became a theme by other audience members who spoke afterwards, Levinton chastised the administration for its lack of

communication and inclusion. "The administration has ignored the basics... ask and listen." In his prepared statement, Levinton said the construction would destroy a living lab capable of educating thousands of students and one of the homes of red-tailed hawk. "It's not the footprint [ecological footprint], it's the spill over." He cited noise pollution as a spill over. According to National Geographic, the red-tailed hawk is the most common hawk in North America.

Both Bowman and Levinton offered suggestions for another location for the hotel. Bowman suggested the parking lot just north of the main entrance, but quickly backtracked, saying it would create a parking problem. Levinton proposed building the hotel near the train station to encourage visitors to use mass transit.

Bob Cavalieri, the Fire District Manager, and Larry Hall, the fire protection coordinator, spoke on behalf of the Setauket Fire District, responsible for answering the numerous fire alarms on campus. According to Cavalieri, hotels have more false alarms than other structures and taxpayers cannot cover the cost of re-

sponding to false alarms. "[Stony Brook University] exhausts resources already. Adding a hotel would be unjust." Hall agreed with Cavalieri. "The university needs its own full time fire department." Cavalieri encouraged SBU officials to communicate with the Setauket Fire District while Hall complained, "There is no communication between the administration and the offices that provide protection."

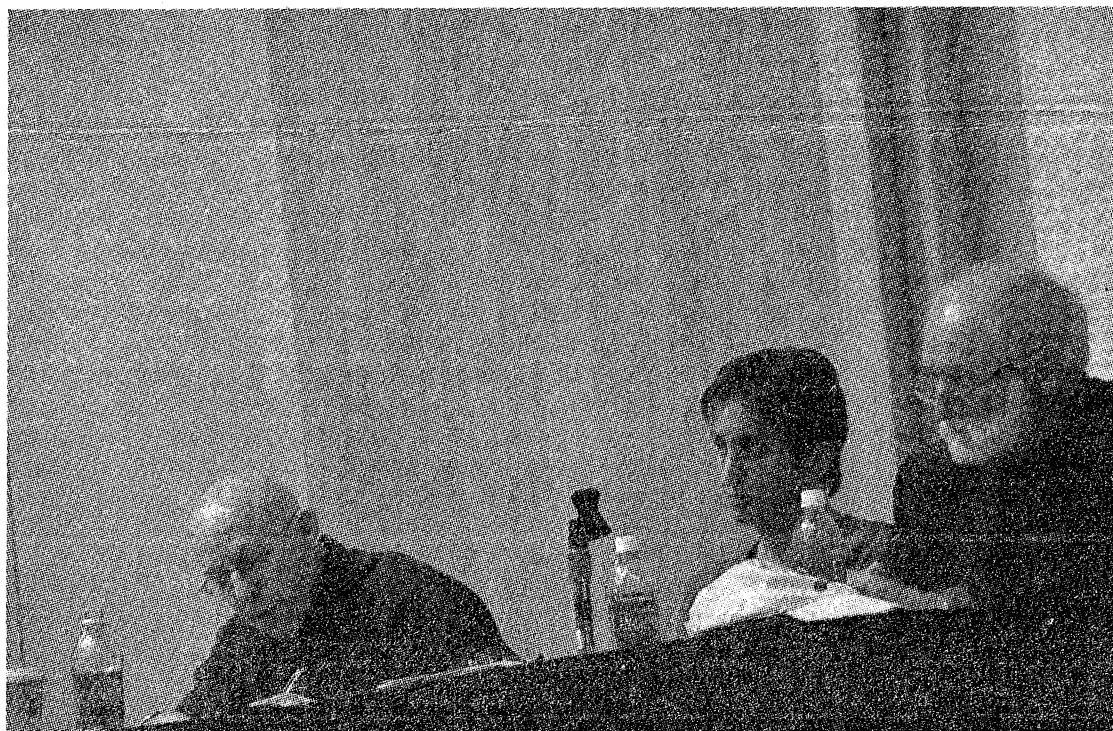
Although the town hall meeting was the first public forum of this magnitude regarding the hotel, Chernow maintained the administration has communicated with the SBU community for 20 years. "People don't remember,"

Of all the concerns shared during the town hall meeting, including the environmental impact, the cost and the necessity, perhaps none were as passionate as those from the Long Island State Veterans Home and the Stony Brook University Medical Center. Officials of the hotel asked the audience to remember their patient's families who want to be close to their loved ones.

Through a statement read by Schwartz on behalf of the veteran's home, a 350-bed skilled nursing facility, an official said a hotel would "provide comfort and convenience to the families of more than 200 veterans who die there each year."

An official from Stony Brook University Medical Center said there are pros and cons to every site, but added that the Circle Road location was close to the medical center. He encouraged opponents to "go to a hospital, see a child that has cancer and the mother and father trying to be there for the child. To not afford them the right to be local is not right."

In response to the numerous concerns and calls from the audience for the administration to communicate more openly with the SBU community, Chernow said a Web site will be up this week to answer the most frequently asked questions and concerns.



From left: Michael Schwartz, Barbara Chernow and Malcolm Bowman.

Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

## Health Care In Sudan: The Medicine of Poverty

By BERNIE LUBELL  
Contributing Writer

Dr. James Maskalyk struggled to avoid eye contact with those in line or on the dirt floor as he passed by, knowing full well that many patients in the remote and dusty hospital would be turned away by the day's end. He did not want to disappoint them, but he knew that this was the reality of south Sudan.

Maskalyk is not the only medical doctor who has provided care to patients in Sudan. Currently, there are 3,240 field staff from Médecins Sans Frontières aiding the country in which preventable, communicable diseases are the leading cause of death.

"Without health, you have nothing," said Maskalyk, assistant professor of emergency medicine at the University of Toronto. "Without those fundamental blocks of primary healthcare, you can't even pursue freedom."

Imagine a nation where 75 percent of citizens do not have access to even the most basic healthcare, and where 10 percent of children die before the age of one. Welcome to southern Sudan, a war-torn East African country enmeshed in political crises and genocide, where Maskalyk spent six months as a physician with MSF.

In early November, Médecins Sans Frontières declared an outbreak of the deadly Kala-azar, a parasitic tropical "dis-

ease of the poorest of the poor." Worldwide, it kills 50,000 people a year, and has an almost 100 percent fatality rate if left untreated. However, if treated quickly and effectively, the disease has a 95 percent survival rate. Kala-azar is not the only disease rampant in southern Sudan unnecessarily killing adults and children. In fact, other infectious diseases such as meningitis, malaria, diphtheria and yellow fever are also present in the African region of eight million.

There is an eclipsed issue in Sudan slowly reaching the ears of those in more developed countries: Sudan's healthcare infrastructure has failed. The lack of access to healthcare contributes to a surge in cases and deaths not seen in developed nations with sophisticated healthcare systems. There is a growing debate whether the humanitarian and government aid provided is actually effective, as deaths due to preventable diseases continue to take a toll. Despite many humanitarian groups

across the world contributing to the growing healthcare crises, millions continue to die of preventable deaths.

Médecins Sans Frontières, more commonly known in the United States as Doctors without Borders, has been a consistent humanitarian presence in Sudan since 1979. According to the organization's most recent international activity report published last year, the organization treated 9,000 children for severe acute malnutrition and 6,700 for cholera, respectively.

"Now I realize as someone who knows Sudan, how crucially important that place was and is," Maskalyk said fervently. "You see within them starvation. It's not just three or five percent of people—everyone is starving."

The defining moment of Maskalyk's service in Sudan was his encounter with a severely dehydrated abandoned girl. "She was so thirsty, she tried sucking on

Continued on page 6

# The New Heritage Inn

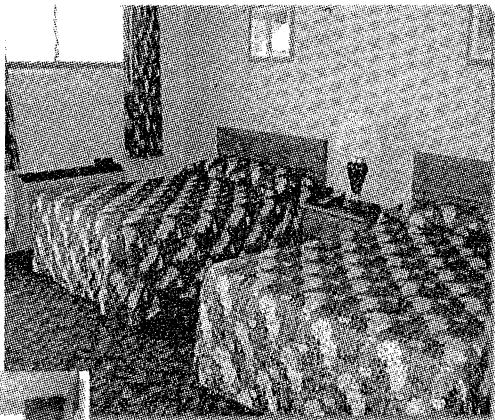
At Port Jefferson Harbor

**WALKING DISTANCE TO:**

- Village Shopping
- Restaurants
- Park and Playground
- Nightclubs
- Sport Fishing and Boating
- Port Jeff/Bridgeport Ferry

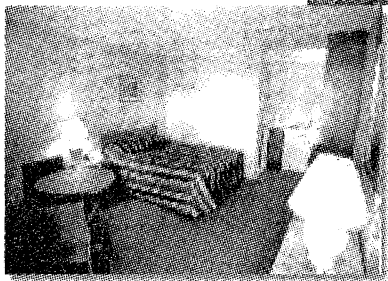
**DRIVE IN MINUTES TO:**

- Port Jeff Train Station
- Stony Brook University
- Mather & St. Charles Hospitals
- Islip/MacArthur Airport



**OUR ROOMS FEATURE:**

- Color Cable TV
- Telephone with Dataport & Voicemail
- Efficiency Rooms Available
- FREE Wireless Internet



**SPECIAL WEEKLY RATES**

All Stony Brook Students, Faculty and Employees with Stony Brook ID: Standard rooms starting at \$79 Monday thru Thursday

**631-473-2499 • www.portjeffheritageinn.com**  
 201 West Broadway • Route 25A • Port Jefferson  
*(Across from Harbor)*

# WINGMAN®



Simply Addicting  
 Award Winning  
**Jumbo Wings**  
**Cheeseburgers**  
**Philly Cheesesteaks**  
 And much more...

**377 Independence Plaza, Selden, NY**  
 (Next to Home Depot)

Call ahead to order  
**(631) 320-0852**

Or order online at  
**www.wingmanwings.com**



Bring in this coupon to get

**\$5.00 OFF**

Your total check of \$10 or more!

Coupon must be presented at the time of order. Offer valid only as indicated above. Not valid with any other offers, promotions or discounts. Only one discount per order. Offer may be rescinded at the sole discretion of Wingman. Not redeemable for cash. No cash value. Expires 12/15/2009.

*Luxury Rental Communities*

Babylon	(631) 587-6096
Bay Shore	(631) 665-3263
Bay Shore 60+	(631) 665-3263
N. Bay Shore	(631) 665-3263
Bohemia	(631) 567-1144
Calverton	(631) 369-3884
Cedarhurst	(516) 924-0379
Centereach	(631) 698-8344
Commack	(631) 462-9150
N. Coram 55+	(631) 451-1282
Deer Park	(631) 587-6096
East Islip	(631) 581-1475
Farmingdale	(516) 753-0417
Farmingdale Village 55+	(631) 291-8418
Farmingville	(631) 451-0969
Hauppauge	(631) 366-3446
Hewlett	(516) 924-0379
Holbrook	(631) 218-9044
Islip	(631) 665-3263
Lake Grove	(631) 698-8344
Mastic Beach 55+	(631) 462-6060
Medford	(631) 698-3262
Middle Island	(631) 924-1100
Moriches 55+	(631) 291-8418
Northport	(631) 261-7662
Oakdale	(631) 567-6333
Patchogue	(631) 475-8922
N. Patchogue	(631) 475-1667
Patchogue Village 55+	(631) 475-8922
Port Jefferson	(631) 928-7250
Port Jefferson 55+	(631) 331-4407
Port Jefferson Village	(631) 928-7250
Riverhead	(631) 727-1919
Ronkonkoma	(631) 585-1280
Sayville	(631) 567-6333
Selden	(631) 698-8344
Setauket	(631) 737-9030
Smithtown	(631) 366-3446
Valley Stream	(516) 924-0379
W. Babylon	(631) 478-1141
W. Babylon 55+	(631) 587-6096



## RENT SPECIALS\*

\*Restrictions apply. Call for Details!

Bring in this ad for  
**NO APPLICATION FEE!**

\*Restrictions apply. Call for Details!

# Fairfield Properties

• **Newly-Constructed Rental Townhouse Communities**

Award Winning Ranch, Duplex and Villa Style 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Floor Plans Each Featuring Two Full Baths, Central Air Conditioning, Wall-To-Wall Carpeting And Ceramic Tile Kitchen With State-Of-The-Art Whirlpool Appliances, Including Washer/Dryer. Some Layouts With Den, Loft, Fireplace, Direct Access Garage and Full Basement.

• **Luxury Garden Apartment Locations**

Beautifully Landscaped Communities With Studio, 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments – Some Senior 55 And Over Communities. Most Featuring Updated Kitchen & Bath, Wall-To-Wall Carpeting, Gas Heat & Hot Water, Dishwasher, Microwave, Central Air Conditioning Or A/C Units, Terrace And Private Entries. Detached Garages & Storage Units Available.

• **Decorator Designed Clubhouses**

Outstanding Recreational Facilities Featuring State-Of-The Art Fitness Centers. Some With Party Kitchen, Business Center, Library, Laundry Room, Pool, Playground, Sport Court, Sauna And Locker Room. Available At Select Communities.

• **Corporate Furnished Apartments Available**

*Immediate & Future Occupancy Available*



## Fairfield Properties

66 Commack Road, Commack, New York 11725  
 (631)462-6060 www.fairfieldproperties.com



**Editor-in-Chief**  
Bradley Donaldson

**Managing Editor**  
April Warren

**Opinions Editor**  
Zéba Ahmad

**Online Editor**  
Joe Trollo

**Arts & Entertainment Editor**  
Ivanna Avalos

**Sports Editor**  
Sarah Kazadi

**Photo Editor**  
Frank Posillico

**Copy Editor**  
Yasmeen Tamoor

**Business Manager**  
Frank D'Alessandro

**Accountant**  
Arthur Golnick

First issue free, additional issues cost 50 cents.

**GET INVOLVED**

Statesman production meetings are held throughout the day on Wednesdays and Sundays in Room 057 in the basement of the Student Union. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newspaper is welcome to attend these meetings.

The Statesman encourages readers to submit opinions and commentaries to the following address:

Stony Brook Statesman  
PO Box 1530  
Stony Brook, NY 11790

Phone: (631) 632 - 6479  
Fax: (631) 632 - 9128

Email: [comments@sbstatesman.org](mailto:comments@sbstatesman.org)

To view previous issues, extra material, and to learn about how to get involved with the Statesman, visit our website at [sbstatesman.com](http://sbstatesman.com).

For advertising inquiries, call us at (631) 632 - 6480 or visit us online at [sbstatesman.com](http://sbstatesman.com).

**WHO WE ARE**

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sucolian" in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975, The Statesman was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student run organization. Its editorial board, writing, and photography staff are student volunteers while its business staff are professionals.

The Statesman is published twice weekly on Mondays and Thursdays throughout the fall and spring semesters.

*Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Statesman.*

All content Copyright 2009.

# Unity in Afghanistan and America

BY RAVNEET KAMBOJ  
Staff Writer

Over the past 8 or so years the United States has maintained a military presence in Afghanistan. It started with the attacks of September 11, 2001 but became quickly over shadowed by the conflict that arose in Iraq.

The Afghan war took a back seat in priority and did not enter the nations conscious significantly until recently.

While violence in Iraq over the past few years has been greatly reduced and the war there seemingly slowing in intensity the conflict in Afghanistan has picked up pace and violence is up significantly. Some of the deadliest months for coalition troops have been the past few and the Taliban are making a return to power. There are now thousands of Taliban and foreign fighters in Afghanistan and in the lawless region between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Recently President Obama announced that the US would be sending 30,000 additional troops to the region. Most of these troops will be infantry and a few hundred will be dedicated to training the Afghan national security forces.

Few people seem to be questioning whether or not this step is necessary, the question is however if our military can handle the added strain of this deployment. Military equipment is breaking down and soldiers are going on their fifth or sixth tours. It is probably impossible for those if us not in the military or without family in the military to imagine how hard this is for them.

The main question that arises however is why this step is being taken so long after we arrived. Mili-



Media credit: [www.afterdowningstreet.org](http://www.afterdowningstreet.org)

**“Ignorance, personal aspirations and individual agendas can sometimes dictate the direction our military takes.”**

tary commanders in Afghanistan have been asking for additional troops for years and our soldiers have been getting killed because of inadequate support and equipment.

A part of this problem comes from the way the war has been fought from the beginning. Then Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's strategy was to use a "light" force that consisted of small infantry and special forces units supported by air power. This strategy however backfired in Afghanistan. There was an illusion of control in

Afghanistan so the US committed most of its resources to Iraq, but when the situation in Afghanistan deteriorated there was a shortage of troops and supplies available.

The situation in Afghanistan deteriorated because the newly formed government in Kabul could not maintain any semblance of order and was ripe with corruption. The need became clear over the years that this new surge in Afghanistan needed to take place.

It is becoming clearer and clearer that the people who are running this countries military strategy

do not have the know how or good intentions to lead our troops. The civilian branch of the government that has final say over what actions our military takes frequently overrides and disregards the opinion of top generals and commanders on the ground.

These decisions are sometimes necessary for our civilian leaders to take but sometimes it is ignorance or personal aspirations and agendas that set what direction our military takes.

A good example of this is are the PMC or private military contractors in Iraq. US soldiers do not regard them highly as they often get paid in excess of 100,000 dollars to do the same jobs that our troops get paid under 30,000 to do. These kinds of excesses and oversights have been partially to blame for us getting stuck so deeply in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

I am hoping that from here on in, it will be responsible people making responsible decisions that put no more of our troops at risk than are absolutely necessary. Everyone wants to see our troops come home and also wants to see our missions of creating a stable Iraq and Afghanistan succeed.

If we succeed in Afghanistan we can then begin to clamp down even harder on the real terrorists who are hiding out in the mountains between Afghanistan and Pakistan and in the end this will make us all safer.

Ensuring safety for ourselves and the world is what this war is about so lets try to fight it right and put an end to years of continuous conflict and if we have to do that by increasing the pressure on the enemy then I think we can all support this measure.

## Letter to the Editor: Vandalism and Veracity

To the Editor:

Recently the Stony Brook campus has witnessed a rash of anonymous fliers with the heading "Isreal = Terrorist State" (sic) and a photograph of what appears to be two injured or dead children. This morning, December 7, several instances of chalk written graffiti were found on and near the Staller Center.

I am not writing this letter to try to solve the Middle East conflict, but then I don't think the

vandal or vandals who have been littering our campus are doing so either. As we know from many past programs held at Stony Brook on this subject, it is one that is vastly complicated and a human tragedy for all involved. I doubt that any clear thinking person would want anything besides a peaceful solution to this conflict, but there are many disagreements on how to reach that goal. This is an educational institution where we value the civil exchange of ideas even when there

is bitter disagreement. Hanging misspelled propaganda fliers in the middle of the night and vandalizing buildings and grounds with graffiti are not legitimate methods of engaging in a discussion with other members of the community. Rather, it is pronouncing your views via "hit and run" rather than going to the trouble of organizing a civil program or writing your opinions in our campus newspapers. Indeed, when no one can listen to what you have to say and respond in a reason-

able manner, it destroys the ability to learn from one another through face to face interaction. Unfortunately whoever is responsible for this is doing us all a disservice by engaging in a form of "intellectual terrorism" by bombarding us with nonsensical slogans and avoiding engaging in a serious discourse. This is not what a university is about.

- Rabbi Joseph S. Topek  
Hillel Director and Chairperson,  
Interfaith Center

### Guidelines for Opinion Submission



Letters to the editor or op-ed contributions can be submitted by e-mail at [Op-Ed@sbstatesman.org](mailto:Op-Ed@sbstatesman.org), on our online submission tool at [www.sbstatesman.org](http://www.sbstatesman.org), by hand at our office in the Student Union Rm 057, or by mailing it to us at the address in the left column. They must be received at least two days before the next printed issue. The Statesman reserves the right to edit or not print any letter based on appropriateness, length, timeliness, or other reasons at the discretion of the editorial board. Letters should be no longer than 350 words, and opinion pieces should not exceed 550 words. Please include your full name (which we may withhold if you request it), phone number and email address for verification. Phone numbers and e-mail addresses will not be printed. Letters submitted anonymously or under false names will not be considered for publication.

# Health Care In Sudan: The Medicine of Poverty

Continued from page 3

my stethoscope," he said. He treated her almost daily for Tuberculosis, watching her slow physical recovery as she transformed into a functional child. "The unit of human understanding is the story," said Maskalyk, author of *Six Months in Sudan*. "It's the way we make sense of the world we live in. To me, that's the story of what Sudan is about — that little girl."

While Maskalyk has made it his life's mission to practice and teach "the medicine of poverty," he says that a results driven approach to healthcare in south Sudan has been lacking. "The large distribution of money in the form of aid from government to government is a policy failure," he said. "It hasn't done anything to eradicate poverty. The body of evidence of this type of medicine is so new that it hasn't been subjected to the same study of rigor."

While medical doctors like Maskalyk have traveled to south Sudan to treat patients, others have ventured into the depths of Africa to examine healthcare infrastructure.

Epidemiologist Thomas Handzel, Ph.D., returned from his fourth visit to southern Sudan last week. As a part of the International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch at the Centers for Disease Control, he traveled with colleagues to work on an early warning surveillance system with the World Health Organization. The CDC supports public health needs in Sudan and sees it as "very high priority."

Not only is southern Sudan's health infrastructure behind that of other countries,



Media Credit: Mit.edu

A Médecins Sans Frontières physician works in the Sudan lending a hand.

according to Handzel, but resources are also lacking. He says transportation systems and roads are flawed, making it difficult to travel to remote locations. Also, Sudan does not have a national reference lab. This means that specimens taken from Sudan to detect outbreaks are sent to Kenya, thereby drastically slowing outbreak detection.

However, the outbreaks are there. "The hospital in Malakal had a large number of Kala-azar cases, and was having difficulty finding adequate space for all of them," Handzel said of his more than 30 healthcare facility visits in three weeks. "It's a pretty heavy burden. More than half the cases at a health center outside Juba were malaria cases."

According to Handzel, there are limi-

tations impeding both the humanitarian response and the potential for a functional healthcare system. "There is still conflict going on in West Equatoria state," he said, recalling the three attacks in the state capital of Yambio during his stay.

West Equatoria state is one of the most dangerous sites in south Sudan affected by the Lord's Resistance Army, a guerilla organization based out of Uganda that is known to commit crimes against humanity. "Agencies have had restricted movement because of the risk for potential of violence," Handzel said. "It also hurts the humanitarian response and prevents healthcare workers from monitoring conditions."

While Handzel acknowledges the presence of foreign aid, he believes that it simply is not enough. "In more remote areas, access to quality care drops significantly," the epidemiologist said. "In order to make a difference, much more needs to be done on healthcare, water and sanitation."

One person hoping to make the difference that Handzel and others speak of is south Sudan native Jacob Atem. A "Lost Boy of Sudan," Atem traveled 2,000 miles to his freedom when he was a young boy. Now in his late 20s and an American citizen, he is pursuing his master's in public health with hopes to become a medical doctor.

"It makes my heart hurt because people are dying from simple diseases," Atem said. He added, "You are not being shot or eaten by alligator, you are dying from polio, chicken pox, or typhoid." Atem's parents were killed when the "Arab muslims" came and attacked his village when he was six or seven years old — all the Lost Boys of Sudan were assigned the same birth date when they came to America.

Atem founded the South Sudan Health Care Organization, SSHCO, in 2008. He hopes to break ground this month in south Sudan on a health clinic in his home vil-

lage of Maar. Despite this hope, he speaks candidly about the real issues facing his people, upset with the level of aide provided to southern Sudan by more powerful countries. "The United States government ought to do a better job pressuring China," he said. "You cannot have a health center in place when we are under attack—I cannot build a health clinic in Maar when the regime who killed my parents come and attack the village and kill more people."

Atem said that the United States must maintain peace between north and south Sudan. "The U.S. could give millions of dollars and the next day they are destroyed," Atem explained. "Peace and stability are critical."

Peace may, in fact, be imminent in south Sudan, in light of the announcement of an independence referendum to be held in 2011. The referendum will decide whether north and south Sudan will become independent countries.

During his service in south Sudan, Dr. Maskalyk saw firsthand the tension between the north and south, saying the country is "destined" to be split in two. "If people like those in America and Canada pursue help as much as possible to make a chance for a free and fair referendum, there is a chance it will all end peacefully," Maskalyk said of the responsibility of two of the world's superpowers.

Despite his passion for the "medicine of poverty," Maskalyk hopes to one day become obsolete in countries like Sudan. He hopes that, with time, emergency medicine will be taught in these countries, allowing others to be health advocates. "It's important to improve the ability of people there to help and have the ability to respond to their own needs in the future," Maskalyk explained. "Medicine is fun, and it is great to do good medicine. These people will have a chance to really change."



Media Credit: msf.org.uk

In southern Sudan, 10 percent of children die before the age of one.

# Neglected University Senate Hopes For More Involvement in New Administration

BY RACHELLE S. JOHNSON  
Contributing Writer

Attendance at University Senate meetings has surged since the departure of former Stony Brook University President Shirley Strum Kenny, which could indicate a more effective senate.

In a crowded room of the Wang Center at Stony Brook University, faculty, staff and students sat waiting for the second meeting of the fall semester to begin. Only the very first row was empty, and throughout the small theater just 10 seats remained unfilled. People pulled back in their red, felt seats and adjusted their legs to make room for the latecomers. Some sat attentively through four different speakers, in wait for the university's new president, Samuel L. Stanley.

"This was three times more people than usual," said Michael Schwartz, president of the University Senate, after the Oct. 5 meeting. Schwartz sat on the stage floor with his legs in a contorted, yoga-like position. In fact, attendance in September and October increased by 40 percent from last spring, according to University Senate records.

The increased attendance could signal a change from years of poor participation and a troubled history for the University Senate, an organization that should represent all facets of Stony Brook University life. Within the university, each college, as well as each department, has a representative, as well as staff members, graduate and undergraduate students. The senate's mission is to be a voice for the campus community, to provide a forum that has the power to make change through campus-wide rules if necessary and to improve campus life for the entire community. It also can approve or disapprove of any measure by the administration that affects the campus community.

But in recent years, "The senate has merely been a rubber stamp for the will of the administration," Schwartz said. At the senate meeting on Sept. 14, for example, Deputy Provost Brent Lindquist presented the idea of a Stony Brook University campus in Songdo, South Korea to a room of about 70 faculty, staff and student members. After Lindquist's presentation, undergraduate student member Julia Link said there was a failure to communicate the proposed international campus to the student body. Link added, "I don't see any benefits besides enhancing the reputation of Stony Brook University. To Schwartz, it appeared Stony Brook officials had already decided to make the proposed South Korea campus a reality. "It looked like the most important decisions had been made and now the University Senate was asked to get behind it," he said.

After the senate meeting, the 21-year-old senior said Lindquist "was in a slick salesman mode. ... I asked how this would benefit New York State resident undergraduates."

Lindquist responded, "This is an opportunity [to expand]. When an opportunity comes do you ignore it or explore it?"

Other members also expressed discontent. At the September meeting, Health and Sciences Senator at large Edward Feldman agreed that an international campus could benefit

Stony Brook University, but expressed concern over the lack of communication between the university's administration and faculty, staff and students.

Social and Behavioral Sciences Senator Norman Goodman said that faculty was excluded from the decision making, and added he believed their input was valuable.

Members of the University Senate have felt excluded from other major decisions that affect the campus community as well, including increases in enrollment. Former SBU president Shirley Strum Kenny was at the helm when the university experienced a surge in enrollment.

In June 2008 professors formed the Concerned Faculty of Stony Brook, which started a petition that voiced concerns over growing class sizes.

"I used to teach cultural history to about 50 students. It's now over 100," said Herman Lebovics, a professor of history and a member of the Concerned Faculty of Stony Brook. According to the petition, the student-to-teacher ratio increased nearly 50 percent from 23-to-1 to about 34-to-1, from 1998 to 2008.

The university disputes that number. According to Emily Thomas, director of Planning and Institutional Research at Stony Brook University, the faculty to student ratio has increased from 17-to-1 in 1998, to 18-to-1 in 2008. The ratio for this year has not been

calculated yet.

According to Schwartz, the increased enrollment is a point of contention between the administration, the University Senate and students. He used the highly selective Yale University in Connecticut as an example of how the increasing enrollment issue should have been presented and discussed in the University Senate. Before Yale decided to increase enrollment, the administration planned for three years. Representatives from campus administration, faculty and staff, including housing, dining services, academia and campus life, formed committees to manage the changes at Yale. Now 75 percent of classes at the Ivy League university have fewer than 20 students, according to Yale University's Web site. The student to teacher ratio is 7-to-1.

"At Stony Brook there was no planning or input from faculty, staff and students. [The administration] just admitted more students," Schwartz said.

Some hope the ushering in of a new university president will open closed doors of communication between officials and the Stony Brook community. "When Shirley was president, she deferred questions to someone else," Link said, referring to former President Kenny.

"I think under Kenny, we would not have been able to make changes," Schwartz said.

But he later added that Stanley has to do his part, and faculty, staff and students have to do their part, too.

Although Link said the information about the South Korea campus was important, according to Senate attendance records, no other undergraduate student senate member attended the monthly meeting.

"Attendance is poor," said John Kriscenski, executive vice president of the Undergraduate Student Government and senate member. Schwartz agreed, "There are never 14 [undergraduate] members here." According to the senate constitution, "The University Senate shall include undergraduate students to a number equal to ten percent (10%) of the total number of voting faculty members." The University Senate has nearly 140 members.

But Schwartz offered a reason for the lack of participation from members. "The senate has never done anything for the students. I got elected to try to change that." Schwartz was elected in February 2009.

Transforming the University Senate is proving easier said than done. In past years, there haven't been enough candidates to run for senate positions. Many run unopposed, and many students don't know the University Senate exists. There are 36 openings this academic year.

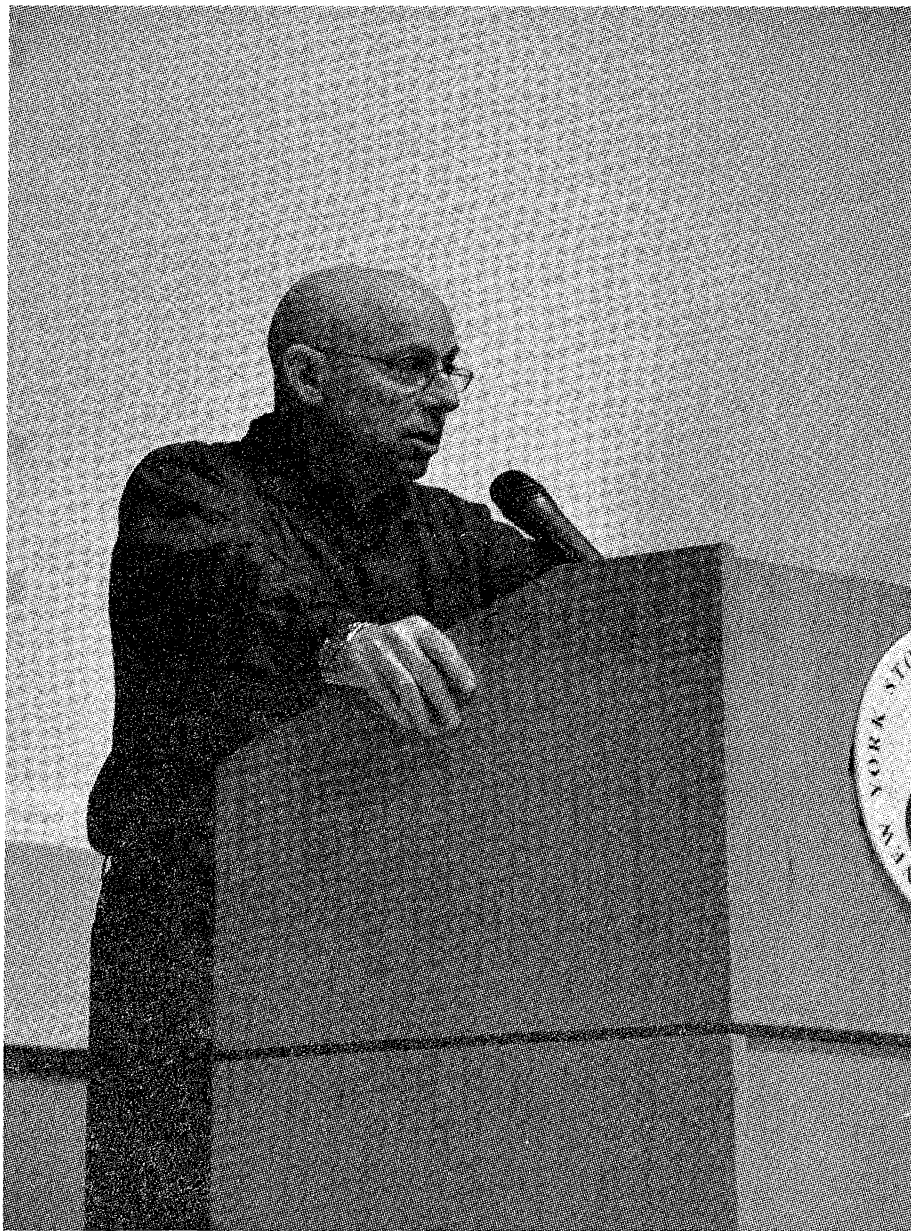
To increase participation in the voting process, the executive committee headed by Schwartz is proposing a number of reforms including moving election dates up. The Senate Executive Committee will begin accepting and recruiting candidates by late October. In addition, a tentative list of candidates will be completed by the end of the fall semester. And in open positions without at least two candidates, there will be a direct effort to recruit them. Schwartz said he hopes the result will be a more active University Senate and that election reforms will encourage members of the senate to think about whether a running candidate deserves their vote.

Schwartz' plans to reform the election process may invigorate faculty and staff, but it may have little effect on students. Many don't know the difference between the University Student Government (USG), which acts as a liaison between students and faculty, staff and administration and the University Senate, the intermediary between the administration and Stony Brook faculty, staff and students.

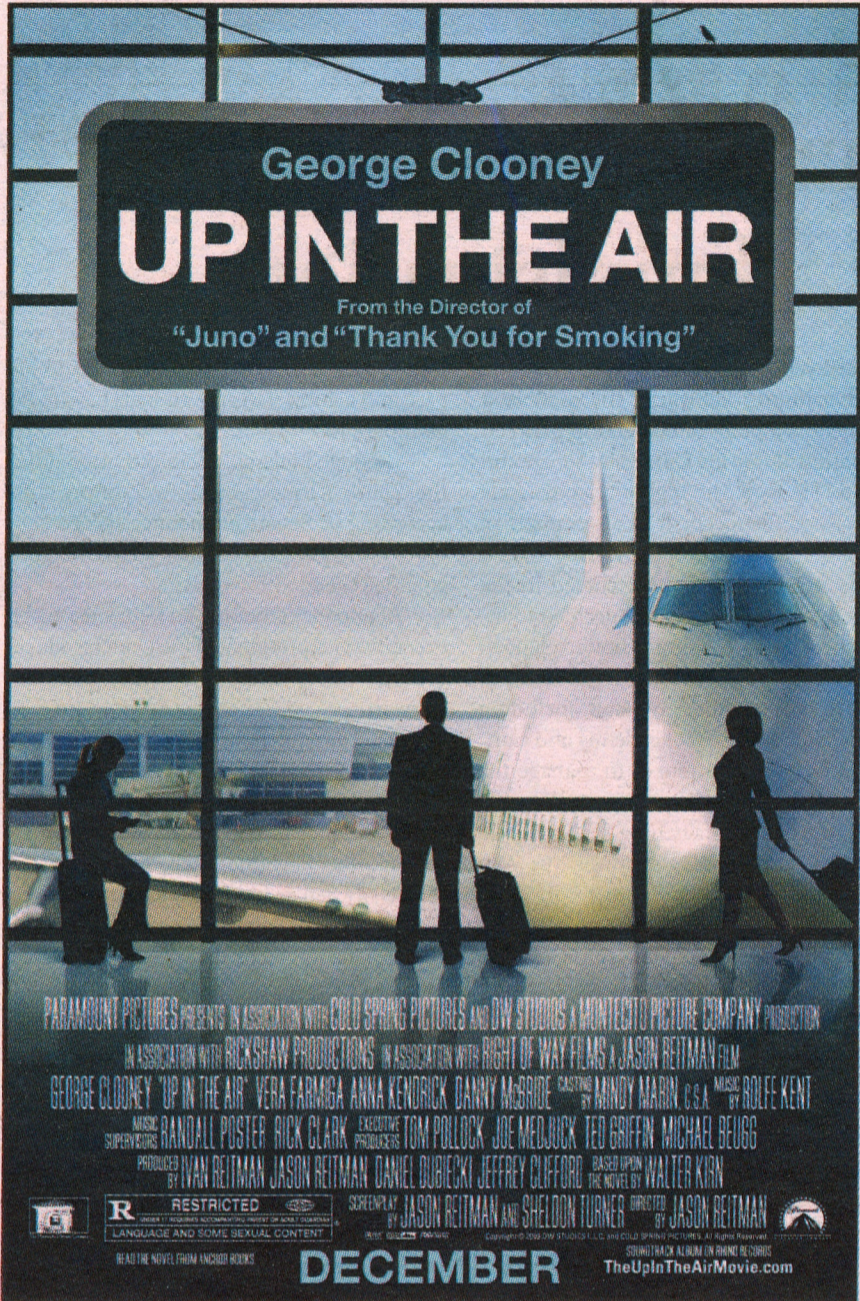
When senior Varinder Singh was asked about the purpose of the University Senate he said, "Don't they go to Albany?" Even seniors who have spent their college careers at Stony Brook don't know the University Senate exists. Business major Ryan Richichi said he had no idea there was a University Senate, but initially thought, "Oh yeah their office is in the SAC." In fact, the USG's office is located in the Student Activities Center. The University Senate's offices are located in the Psychology B building.

But Schwartz is somewhat optimistic. "We'll be lucky if we figure out how we should have done it next year." Schwartz leaned back in a stiff chair in his office, smiled, and said, "We'll get it right!"

Link is also hopeful. "If we [University Senate] grab Stanley while he's new, the senate has the potential to be pretty powerful."



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman  
University Senate President Michael Schwartz during a recent town hall meeting.



The semester's over, but we'll be back!

*Keep a look out for us on January 25, 2010.*

Enjoy your break, and see you again soon!

**BEST BARGAIN BOOKS**

**We Are Now Buying Your New and Used College Books**

**WE PAY THE HIGHEST PRICES!!!**

<p><b>65 Robinson Ave.</b>  <b>East Patchogue, NY 11772</b>  <b>(631) 207-2353</b>          Mon, Tues, Fri: 8-5; Wed, Thurs: 8-8;          Sat: 9-5; Sun 10-5</p>	<p><b>217 Middle Country Rd.</b>  <b>Centereach, NY 11720</b>  <b>(631) 737-7777</b>          Mon-Thurs: 9-9; Fri-Sat: 9-10; Sun 9-8          (2 miles east of Smith Haven mall in the Walmart Shopping Center)</p>	<p><b>14 East Broadway</b>  <b>Port Jefferson, NY 11772</b>  <b>(631) 331-3349</b>          Mon:8-5; Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9-6          Fri, Sat: 9-8; Sun 10-6</p>
---	---	---



# STATESMAN YEAR-END ARTS REVIEW



What I loved in 2009: Paramore released their third album, "Brand New Eyes." I've been a fan since I was in high school, and have enjoyed watching the band grow from teenagers to young adults in their music. They delivered a great album that is both dramatic and powerful but also fun and youthful.

**IVANNA AVALOS**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

- I loved the No Doubt/Paramore concert this summer at Jones Beach, N.Y. It was unbelievably amazing and I have never had more fun at a concert before. It was amazing to see No Doubt on stage for the first time. I have never screamed so much in my life; it was totally worth losing my voice for.
- I loved that Blink-182 finally got back together. I really missed their music; they're such an amazing and energetic band.
- I have wanted to read "The Lovely Bones" since I was 14 years old, and I finally got around to reading it this summer. Alice Sebold tells an amazing story about a young girl who watches her family from heaven as they grieve their loss.
- I loved "Coraline." I thought it would be a really silly kids' movie, but Tim Burton once again created an entertaining and trippy experience. He's genius.

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- TEASERS!! I hate seeing a teaser trailer for a movie that won't come out for another year. I really hate teasers; they're unfair and get viewers all excited, only to be disappointed by the distant release date.
- All the reality shows about celebrities looking for love. The "contestants" that go on these shows are never looking for love, only their 15 minutes of fame.
- That I didn't get to see Blink-182 in concert at all this summer and they performed with Weezer. I can't believe that I missed them!

**BRADLEY DONALDSON**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



**What I liked in 2009:**

- Lady Gaga released "The Fame Monster" this year, and I love it because it shows a different side of Lady Gaga. She's still outrageous as hell, but in a good way. Who knew that someone wearing BDSM-themed outfits could belt out a song as beautiful and powerful as "Speechless."
- I loved "(500) Days of Summer." Between the creative cinematography and believable acting, the movie gave me an interesting perspective on young love. It's not always as cut and dried as we think. I give the director props for turning the concept of a relationship on its head. It's not just the guy who dumps the girl this time.

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- I hated Britney Spears' attempt at dancing in her music videos this year. I love her, but it's excruciatingly difficult to watch her flail all over the place in "3," though I guess I'll admit that the song is catchy. Kind of...

**APRIL WARREN**  
MANAGING EDITOR



**What I liked in 2009:**

- "The Big Bang Theory" because Penny and Leonard are finally dating!
- "The Ugly Truth" poked fun at the differences between the sexes in a light-hearted way. Plus, Gerard Butler is sexy!

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- Amy Winehouse because she feels the need to call attention to herself constantly yet she has no talent.
- I dislike the media devoting too much coverage on Tiger Woods' alleged affair(s).

**YASMEAN TAMOOR**  
COPY EDITOR



**What I liked in 2009:**

- I liked "Boondock Saints 2." It was amazing; I loved that movie.
- I really like "Bad Romance" by Lady Gaga.

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- I haven't read for fun this year. Only for class.



**FRANK POSILICO**  
PHOTO EDITOR

**What I liked in 2009:**

- "Watchmen," the book and the movie, because it's just awesome. It was long, but awesome.
- "Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince" because it set up the next one so well and made me want to buy my ticket for "Deathly Hallows" Part 1 now.
- I liked "Jennifer's Body," because it was funny, and I liked watching Megan Fox die.
- Paramore's "Brand New Eyes" and Placebo's "Battle For The Sun" because they are both two of my favorite bands and were the best album from both bands.
- I liked "30 Rock" because of Jack Donaghy and "Gossip Girl" because it is awesome.

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- Once again I avoided all reality shows because they are all stupid and have no purpose.
- I hated "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" because it was scene after scene of things blowing up and had no plot.

**MORE REVIEWS ON PAGE 13**

# Got Clips?

New Journalism Major...

Resume Workshops...

Career Fair...

At some point, you are going to have to go on a **professional interview**  
for a job in print media...

How solid is your resume?  
How thick is your portfolio?

**Need experience? Training? Articles?**

*Statesman editors will train you to write articles in  
News, Features, Opinions, Arts, and Sports;  
we also welcome photographers, cartoonists, and graphic designers.*

**Come to our office in the SB Union Room 057,  
call 631-632-6479, or email us at**

**news@sbstatesman.org  
arts@sbstatesman.org**

**sports@sbstatesman.org  
photo@sbstatesman.org.**

# SBstance: The Value of Respect

By BAHAA DAUD  
Contributing Writer

I believe in respect. My grandfather spent his entire life teaching me what it was all about: taking peoples' feelings, needs, hopes and dreams into consideration; respect could be shown to everyone.

I will never forget the times my grandfather took me to work. He owned a steel factory and every weekday at 5:00 a.m., he would unwaveringly get up, get dressed and head to the factory.

One day, he took me down to the factory floor and introduced me to all the workers. I was very excited to see all the big machines and tools that they used – it was so much better than sitting in his boring office. It was hot and very humid on the factory floor. All I could smell were the scents of molten metal and sweat. Whenever they were about to melt another batch the workers would turn on a machine that looked like a giant pot and it would dump orange molten metal into molds.

Over all the deafening sound of machines and clanking sound of metal I heard my grandfather's coarse voice speak to one of the workers. He was polite, courteous and most of all respectful. He would say, "please," "sir," and "thank you." My grandfather didn't act like he

was above them. He spoke to them just like he spoke to his business partners.

I asked him why he treated them that way and he uttered ten words that have been burned into my brain just like his company logo is burned into all of the pieces of steel that he makes, "If I don't respect them, why should they respect me?"

Being young and coming from a privileged household I saw myself as above everyone especially the "poor" and "lowly" workers. It was on that day that I learned respect. Its like my grandfather flipped a switch and a light was illuminated in my head.

Even to this day, I apply the lessons my grandfather taught me. I co-founded a small off-road club and everyday I interact with many different members. I treat my fellow club leaders and the normal members the same way. I take their input on the different events, let them advise me and even allow all members to vote equally on potential new members and rules.

Just because I have the power or social status doesn't mean I deserve respect because, ultimately, respect is like a boomerang: you must throw it out before it returns.



Media credit: [www.int.org/programs](http://www.int.org/programs)

## From the Editor: Farewell Remarks

By ZEBBA AHMAD  
Opinions Editor

It doesn't seem like more than a week ago that I watched the previous editor write his closing remarks with me peering over his shoulder. His was the first piece I ever edited and I did it tentatively, solemnly, and gratefully. I didn't know then that my subsequent editing would be rushed between classes, sometimes instead of them, and actually

more fun and stimulating than the writing itself.

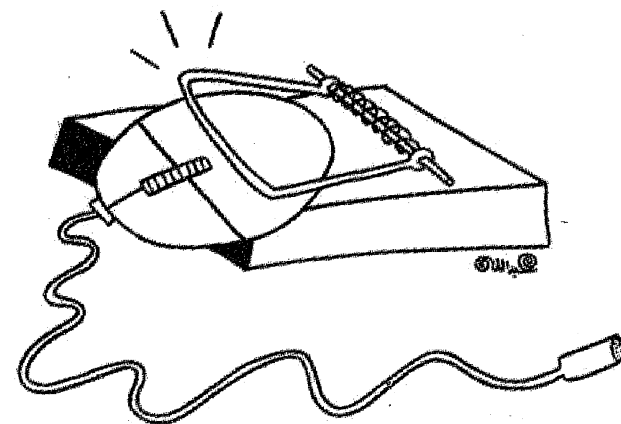
Leaving Stony Brook this month is somewhat bittersweet. I loved watching, and sometimes fueling, the interactions between writers in this section and feel like they gave my experiences direction just as they complicated them. I'm immensely grateful for both the opportunities and comfort I've found here, and know that the guided independence I've acquired during

my time here is what is nudging me to leave at this point.

My first piece as an editor was about the importance of writing for the opinion section. As the Statesman's youngest section, Opinion holds unique authority and reciprocity. At that point, I felt strongly about it's potential, and what I've seen since has actualized that vision.

I'd like to congratulate each of my writers, and everyone who sent a letter to the editor, on their dedication and effectiveness. Reading each of your views was a dramatic and subtle insight into your minds, which lent to the way I've looked at my classes and the disciplines I study.

In a few ways, writing for the Statesman has made me more attuned to the school on the whole. As a non-science major, I've had unique opportunities to stand out in each of my classes and to the university at large. I would suggest taking advantage of all the resources available here while strengthening an identity based on your passions alone. Make it clear to non-science majors that by ignoring the arts of words and conveyance, they are doing themselves a disservice. The "hard" fields have already adjusted to the newer media even if our education has yet to catch up. For all their operational definitions and



Media credit: [www.openarab.net](http://www.openarab.net)

codified procedures, only those with perspective and an understanding of language can make scientists understand one another.

Some people scoff when urged to "find themselves" in college. Testing what you've tried and succeeded in against what you would most like to do is worth the struggle, every time. I don't favor a passive attitude: manipulate your experiences to test your limits. Do it with force. "I tried that in college" should be a response to every question that the world puts before you. Don't be afraid to be alone with yourself, or to take what your peers suggest to heart. Make yourself a priority; while expectations are conditional and short lived; your happiness doesn't have to be.

Finally, I want to thank my fel-

low editors at the Statesman for the opportunity to say these words. I'd also like to thank everyone at the University for bringing me to the point where I have something to say. I want to thank the professors who made their own viewpoints clear when tempted to impart their beliefs less straightforwardly, the psychology research lab that was willing to give me a chance as a freshman, my advisors at the Honors College, and the students who provided stimulation and sympathy on the South P bus.

I'm happy with where the section has gone this semester and hope to see it flourish even further. I look forward to seeing the next editor expand on what's offered here and forsee his expanding on himself.



Media credit: [www.cupwisters.blogspot.com](http://www.cupwisters.blogspot.com)

# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR RENT

**STUDIO APT** starting \$600 and **1 B/R apt** starting \$900. In the heart of Port Jefferson Village. All utilities included, cable, water and heat. Free wireless internet. Parking and bus stop across the street. By appointment only. 631-473-2499.

## HELP WANTED

**PHYSICALLY FIT MALE OR FEMALE.** 6-8 hours per week. Help with physical exercises. Laptop computer desirable for secretarial help for disabled vet at Stony Brook Veterans Home. 689-1085. Cell: 880-0706.

**DOMINOS PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVERS AND INSIDE HELP WANTED.** Flexible hours, great pay, need your own car for delivery. 631.751-0330

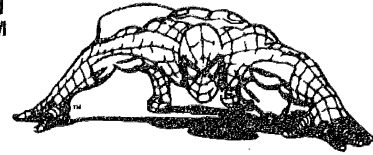
## SERVICES

**THE CARPET SPECIALIST.** Installations, repairs, & restretches. Free estimates. Over 30 years experience. No job too small. 631.567.1426

**FAX SERVICE.** \$0.50 PER PAGE (including cover sheet). Call 632.6479 or come to Room 057 in Student Union.

**HOURS:**  
Mon.-Sat. 10 AM to 9 PM  
Sunday 10 AM to 6 PM

366-4440



## FOURTH WORLD COMICS

33 Route 111, Smithtown, NY 11787  
(Uncle Giuseppe's Shopping Center)

**NEW AND BACK ISSUES**

STAR TREK • DR WHO • TOYS • STAR WARS  
SCIENCE FICTION • POSTERS • T-SHIRTS  
JAPANIMATION • VIDEOTAPES • MODEL KITS  
MAGIC: THE GATHERING • ROLE PLAYING GAMES

**10% DISCOUNT W/VALID  
STONY BROOK ID CARD**



**Hauppauge/Smithtown  
Professional Office/Medical Space**  
From 420-2600 Sq. Ft.  
Fairfield  
631-462-6060  
Brokers Welcome

631-751-0330



1079 Rt. 25A, Stony Brook

**5-5-5 Deal/  
2X Tuesdays**

**5-5-5 Deal:**  
Get Three 4-Topping,  
Medium Pizzas

**2X Tuesdays:**  
Buy One Pizza, Any  
Size, Any Toppings at  
Menu Price & Get a  
2nd Pizza of Equal or  
Lesser Value  
**FREE**  
Valid Tuesday only.

**Family Combo/  
Super Deep**

**Family Combo:**  
One Large 4-Topping  
Pizza, Breadsticks &  
a 2-Liter of Coke®  
**\$15.99**

**Super Deep:**  
Two Medium 4-Topping  
Deep Dish Pizzas &  
a 10 Pc. Order of  
Buffalo Wings  
**\$16.**  
Liquor Store Only.

Try our 4 new sandwiches



**I have been alive for 8 weeks.**

- After 18 days, you could hear my heart beat.
- After 40 days, you could measure my brainwaves.
- After 45 days, I felt pain and responded to touch.

**Please choose life for me.**

Alternatives to Abortion.

Free pregnancy testing, information, counseling and assistance.

Call 243-2373 or 1-800-550-4900

Required CPR Certification Classes

**CPR Training NY** Located in Smithtown

**Pat & Tom Henry**  
American Heart Association  
Certified Instructors  
Group & Private Classes Available

[CPRTrainingNY.com](http://CPRTrainingNY.com)  
[info@CPRTrainingNY.com](mailto:info@CPRTrainingNY.com)  
Call Pat Today  
631-724-3537

# Have a creative side? Perfect.

We're always on the lookout for writers, photographers, graphic designers... any kind of student who can add to our team.

If you're interested contact us at [eic@sbstatesman.org](mailto:eic@sbstatesman.org) with your information, or see our application page on [www.sbstatesman.com](http://www.sbstatesman.com)

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



**ZEBA AHMAD**  
OPINION EDITOR

**What I liked in 2009:**

- I liked Julian Casablancas' "Phrazes for the Young;" the hard work and innovation are evident. The Killers' "Day and Age" had a similar energy. I'm confident that both will be able to work more emotionality into their future works.
- "Glee" is both delightfully ironic and heartfelt, and I look forward to seeing the characters develop further.
- Neil Gaiman's "The Graveyard Book" was one of the best new books I've read recently. It's modern and relevant and nostalgic and evocative.
- The movie "(500) Days of Summer" had some refreshing innovations (especially the "expectation" and "reality" split-screen effect) that I hope to see reflected in more of our chick flicks in the future.
- Harriman Hall's "chocoexpresso beats" Starbucks' "Chocolate Raspberry Truffle" by a mile.

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- I was saddened to see the number of psychology and philosophy courses that got cut from Stony Brook's course catalogue this semester.
- Media coverage of Kanye West's outburst, Michael Jackson's death, and Tiger Woods' indiscretions really cheapened the media and our mindsets this year.
- I haven't enjoyed a single action or horror movie that came out this year.



**SARAH KAZADI**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**What I liked in 2009:**

- The Jay-Z concert at Madison Square Garden on Sept. 11. Not only was it for a good cause but it was an amazing show. Dozens of stars graced the stage and Jay-Z performed the way he's known to. It was definitely worth the \$54 I spent on the ticket.
- I liked the parade after the Yankees Won their 27th World Series. The city was on fire that day, just buzzing with energy and excitement. It was a privilege to be part of the celebration. Go Yankees!

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- Kanye West at the VMAs; are you serious? I love Kanye but that was definitely a butthead move. When the President calls you a jackass then you know you really messed up.
- How Oprah announced that she would be done in 2011. She's one of my idols and it has always been a dream of mine to meet her.
- I dislike what Tiger Woods did. I've never seen a sports figure's squeaky clean image get dirty so fast and unexpectedly. I still admire him as a golfer but he will forever be known as a cheetah (cheater), not a tiger.



**JOE TROLLO**  
ONLINE EDITOR

**What I liked in 2009:**

- Jason Mraz's "Gratitude Cafe" tour — specifically, his stop in Jones Beach, N.Y. — was extremely enjoyable. His music is, as always, fantastic, and I found the stage effects and lighting almost entrancing.
- I think "Glee" is a fantastic new addition to television. Although I doubt that any group of high school friends has as many complicated problems as the characters in there do, I find the ever-changing dynamic of their relationships to be interesting to follow. It's one of the few drama riddled shows I can stand to watch, and the music is great, too.

**What I disliked in 2009:**

- I cannot stand the new throng of Stephanie Meyer fans that crawl out of the woodwork with each new book or movie release. Moderation, people, is key. Although I must say, from what I hear of the fourth book, I would certainly watch a cinematic rendition of it simply because I think it would be hysterical to watch Bella get ripped apart by her vampire-child.

## Desirée Rogers Drops the Ball

### White House Social Secretary Scrutinized for Party Crashers

BY JIHAN ANTOINE  
Contributing Writer

Behind every perfect social event is the perfect event planner, but in the case of the White House, it's the social secretary. Desirée Rogers is responsible for every event that happens in the White House residence. She must coordinate with chefs, florists, décor, entertainment, and of course, the guest lists. Rogers has already organized 150 events at the White House.

She arrived in Washington with more style than any past White House social secretary and was the first Black woman to hold this position. She has been featured in *Vogue*, *Wall Street Journal*, television appearances, and has been given the title of one of the most prominent women of style. With a Harvard MBA, years of corporate experience, and a circle of close friends, which include Barack and Michelle Obama, Desirée is living the life that many

event planners dream of.

She defined her goal as nothing less than bringing life to the Obama presidency and to help him build relationships with the capital's other political players. Her vision for the spectacular events include inviting ordinary citizens chosen by lottery to join in a social activity that reflects the eclectic interests of a the First couple, along with ravishing state events and intimate dinners, complete with entertainment fit for Kings and Queens. Most recently, the activity was the state dinner for Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

Now, for event planners as well as social secretaries, one major fear is not having enough guests to attend an event, but for Desirée Rogers, her fear was the opposite, having uninvited guests easily past through security and taking warm pictures with prominent people. Rogers failed to follow the previous administration's practice of staffing the Secret Service-guarded

entrances for dinner guests with someone from her office that could handle any problem with invitees.

According to an article from CBS, "the social secretary pulled off an elegant evening, a logistically complicated affair for 300-plus guests under a romantic pavilion lined with magnolia branches. The chef was whisked in from one of New York's top restaurants, and the entertainment was headlined by Oscar winner Jennifer Hudson."

The turn of events occurred when the emergence of an unknown wealthy couple effortlessly made their way past White House checkpoints, got their names announced, walked by the press cameras on the ground floor, and made their way upstairs, where President Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, and his wife, Gursharan Kaur, were in a receiving line. The Salashis, owners of the Oasis Winery

and the America's Cup of Polo, who were applying to be featured for a reality show called the "Housewives of DC" were taped by a camera crew, as they prepared at their home for the state dinner at the White House.

As of now, the blame has been placed on the Secret Service, which took full responsibility for the failures, and the social office, which didn't have staff stationed at the checkpoints. Criticism has surfaced to see if Rogers gets "the boot" for the letting Salashis "sneak a peek". Reports have stated that she has not spoken since the breach, and the White House has said she won't testify before the congressional panel.

Maureen Dowd of the *New York Times* wrote: "Instead of standing outside with a clipboard, eyeballing guests as Anne Hathaway did in 'The Devil Wears Prada,' Desirée was ... the center of her own table of guests, just like the president and first lady."

# Men's Hoops Falls To Fordham

By DORIC SAM  
Staff Writer



Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman

Forward/Center Dallis Joyner recorded career highs in points and rebounds, but it wasn't enough to put the Seawolves on top.

Stony Brook's men's basketball team dropped a tough game on the road on Tuesday, losing 93-77 to the Fordham Rams. Four Seawolves recorded double-digit points, but it wasn't enough to stop a Fordham team that shot 51.7 percent from the field and hit 13 three-pointers. Stony Brook falls to 6-3 on the season.

"We just didn't play well enough on the defensive side of the ball to win tonight," Stony Brook head coach Steve Pikiell said. "But give Fordham credit, they played a terrific basketball game."

Senior Muhammad El-Amin (Lansing, MI.) scored a team-high 16 points and sophomore Dallis Joyner (Norfolk, VA.) added 15 points and 10 rebounds to record the first double-double of his career.

Joyner recorded career-highs in both points and rebounds, while El-Amin went a perfect 6-for-6 from the foul line and tallied seven rebounds.

The Seawolves also received double-digit scoring performances from sophomore Bryan Dougher (Scotch Plains, NJ.), who added 13 points, and junior Chris Martin (Springfield Gardens, NY.), who scored 11 points off the bench.

Fordham's Chris Gaston and Brenton Butler scored 25 points apiece to lead the Rams to their second win of the season.

After a slam dunk from sophomore Tommy Brenton (Columbia, MD.) gave the Seawolves an early lead of 8-6, the Rams went on a 21-9 run to take a double-digit lead at 27-17 with 8:33 left in the first half.

The Seawolves were eventually able to cut the lead to four on a three from sophomore

Danny Carter (London, UK) with just over five minutes left in the half, forcing Fordham to call a timeout.

Immediately after the timeout, Butler hit his fourth three-pointer of the half to extend the lead back to seven.

The lead would eventually grow to nine before four straight fastbreak points from Joyner, including a thunderous dunk, after a behind-the-back pass from El-Amin cut it down to five.

The teams would trade baskets over the final 30 seconds of the half, as Fordham went into the break on top, 44-38.

Fordham shot 55.2 percent in the first half, including eight three-pointers, while Stony Brook was held to a dismal 38.2 percent from the field.

Fordham was able to extend their lead to 13 within the first five minutes of the second half.

They would eventually take their largest lead of the game, 69-54, on a Lance Brown three, with eight minutes remaining in the game.

The Seawolves still trailed by 14 with five minutes left, until Carter got free for a dunk as Stony Brook scored five out of the next six points to cut the lead to 10.

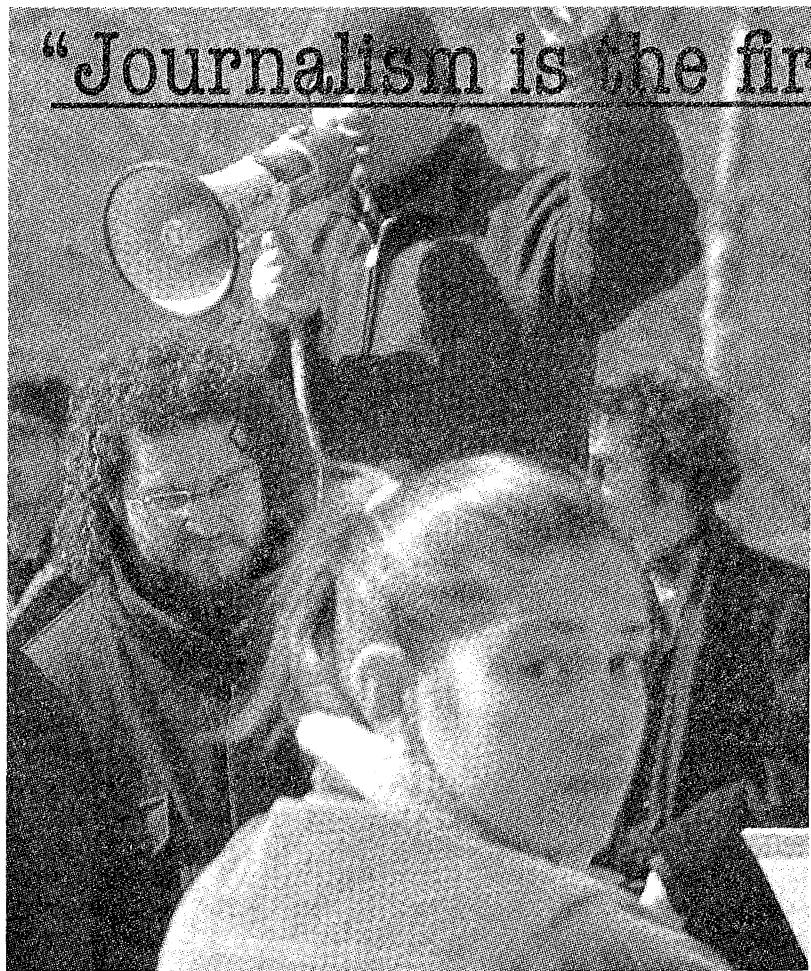
But the Rams would not let up, as Alberto Estwick hit back-to-back three-pointers that put Fordham back up by 14. The Seawolves could not cut the lead to less than 12 as Fordham went on to victory.

Stony Brook shot a horrendous 39.4 percent from the field and 14.3 percent from three-point range. They also lost the rebound battle, 42-34, after averaging almost 40 rebounds in their previous eight games.

The Seawolves will hit the road again on Saturday, this time to face Colgate. Tipoff is set for 2 p.m.

"Journalism is the first rough draft of history"

-Donald Graham



"Students staging a protest against the war in Iraq," Spring 2005, Statesman

**Help write  
Stony Brook's history.**

Join the Statesman,  
reporting SB history since 1957.

**Call Us:**

631-632-6479

**Get Involved online:**

[www.sbstatesman.org](http://www.sbstatesman.org)

# Campaign To Rename Stadium Picks Up Steam



Kenneth Ho/ SB Statesman

The homecoming crowd at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium in early October. The stadium, in which the football, lacrosse, and soccer teams play, is at the center of a heated debate and might be renamed.

By SAM KILB  
Staff Writer

When Doug Newman heard the news that the Marriage Equality Act, which would allow gay marriage in New York State, had been defeated on the state Senate floor, his reaction was “profound disappointment,” he said.

Newman, a senior history major at Stony Brook University, did not remain idle. Instead, he did what any activist of his generation might do: he started a Facebook group, gathering support for a movement to remove the name of 1st District Senator Kenneth P. LaValle, who voted against the bill, from the front of Stony Brook’s LaValle Stadium.

LaValle was instrumental in attaining state funding for the construction of Stony Brook’s main athletic facility which serves the school’s football, men’s and women’s soccer, and men’s and women’s lacrosse teams, in addition to hosting local high school championships.

“Sen. LaValle has been a friend of our university, and of public higher education in general,” Newman said in a press release Monday. “But history does not excuse those who propagate injustice because they helped construct nice buildings.”

The Facebook group grew rapidly, including almost 400 members within 24 hours of the vote. Newman renamed his group Stony Brook Students for Equality

and called a press conference in front of the student entrance of LaValle Stadium.

Gathering on a cold December afternoon, Newman and about 15 supporters of the movement stood in front of the stadium. One man held a sign that read “YES ON EQUALITY.” Most stood quietly throughout, showing their support simply by being there and moving only to stay warm or politely applaud each speaker.

In a prepared written statement, Newman acknowledged that LaValle has been a supporter of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender initiatives in the past, including the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act that made it illegal to discriminate against transgendered individuals. Newman said that this gives hope that LaValle can be swayed to support gay rights, but unless this happens, the campaign to remove his name from the stadium will continue.

Elana Lancaster, the lone other student to speak, echoed Newman’s message in encouraging LaValle to get behind the LGBT movement.

“LaValle does not support the entire community,” she said. “Now is the time.”

Alex Nagler, who serves as spokesperson for Stony Brook Students for Equality and president of Stony Brook Democrats, introduced each speaker. Nagler stressed that the campaign has not received backing from Stony Brook Democrats, Stony Brook LGBT, or any other organization.

Regina Calcaterra, a Long Island lawyer who intends to run against LaValle for the state Senate seat in 2010, also criticized LaValle’s vote at the press conference.

“Sen. LaValle was given the test of supporting equal rights, and he failed,” Calcaterra said.

LaValle, who could not be reached for comment on the stadium renaming campaign, issued a press release hours after the December 2 vote, saying that “at the present time, society is equally divided on the issue of gay marriage.” According to LaValle, the next logical step would be to allow same-sex couples to be joined in civil unions that enjoy the same rights as a married couple does.

Despite the online response to the Facebook group, there are many at Stony Brook who believe the campaign is illogical. Jonathan Pu, a political science major and president of Stony Brook College Republicans, said that LaValle properly represented his constituency.

“Even if the majority of students on campus do not agree with his vote, he does not serve only this campus, but rather the entire community he is elected to represent,” Pu said.

According to Pu, the state recognizes marriage as a civil union, and marriage is an issue for the church.

“If proponents of gay marriage seek equal protection under the law, then

they seek the right to civil union,” Pu said. “However, if they are seeking equal recognition by the church, this question should not even approach the legislature, but rather the clergy.”

Derek Mordente, editor of the conservative paper *The Patriot*, agreed that civil unions with equal rights should be enough, but pointed out that marriage has traditionally been regarded as a union between a man and a woman.

“I support giving them equal protections under the law as called for by the Constitution,” Mordente said. “But to demand (same-sex marriage) is not to seek equal rights but superior rights, that is, the ‘right’ to force others to disown a commonly accepted reality for one’s own particular view of it.”

The next step for the stadium renaming movement was to be a petition drive on Wednesday, December 9, movement spokesperson Nagler said. According to Nagler, there was no turnout for the physical petition drive, and the group is looking into creating a petition online.

Nagler said that Stony Brook Students for Equality believes athletics would be in charge of changing the name. Athletic Director Jim Fiore was unavailable for comment.

Stony Brook Students for Equality did not mention where the money to remove or change the stadium name would be attained.

# STATESMAN SPORTS

By SARAH KAZADI  
Sports Editor

## For Seawolves Sports, BREAK = WORK

While most students will be at home, enjoying the month-long break away from classes, campus food, and exams, Stony Brook University's athletic teams will be busy competing on the court, on the ice and in the pool. The main sports in action during the vacation are basketball, ice hockey and swimming. The winter break is wedged between the thick of the hoops, hockey and swimming seasons, and the anticipation for spring sports, like track and field, baseball, tennis and lacrosse.

The men's basketball team will close out 2009 facing off against Colgate, Sacred Heart, St. Peter's and Holy Cross. Then, the squad travels to Boston University on January 2 for their America East Conference opener, which will be televised. The second televised game over the break will be on January 18, an afternoon date with the UMBC Retrievers, who have yet to break into the win column this season, going 0-7. Once classes begin in the spring, only 9 games will be left on the schedule.

The women's basketball team will be busy over the break as well, finishing off 2009 by taking on Dartmouth and Hofstra, then partaking in the Terrapin Classic December 27 -28, facing perennial heavyweights Maryland and UNC-Wilmington. The ladies will kick open their conference season on the road against Hartford on January 2. When the spring semester starts off, the women's team will have only 10 games left in the 2009-2010 season.

The fifteenth-ranked ice hockey team will be busy taking on big names in the world of ice hockey all through winter break. The men will host Penn State on January 9, then Scranton and the Liberty a couple of weeks later. The team will also travel to Towson and try to protect their top-25 ranking.

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams will partake in two meets over the vacation. While it will probably be snowing in New York, the teams will travel to warm and sunny West Palm Beach, Florida for an Intersession Training Trip in early January. Then, they will head back up north to face off against Lafayette in Pennsylvania on January 16. The teams are fresh off a sweep of St Francis, NY.

The track and field teams will partake in the NYU Invitational on January 15, and face more opponents in the spring. The lacrosse and tennis seasons do not begin until February, and the baseball and softball schedules for this season have yet to be revealed. Go to the [goseawolves.org](http://goseawolves.org) and [stonybrookhockey.com](http://stonybrookhockey.com) for all the games taking place while you're away from campus enjoying your break. See you next semester!



ALEEF RAHMAN / SB STATESMAN



KENNETH HO / SB STATESMAN

While Stony Brook students are on break, the Seawolves basketball, swimming and ice hockey teams will be in the thick of their seasons.



KENNETH HO / SB STATESMAN



NICK GENOVESI / SB STATESMAN